Thursday, February 14, 2008

Public Works
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 33

Subject: Authorize execution of a construction contract with LANDMARK STRUCTURES I, L.P. Fort Worth, Texas for Water Reclamation Central Phase I - B – Composite Tank in the amount of \$7,934,364plus a \$396,718.20 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$8,331,082.20.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Gary P. Jackson 974-7115, Yvonne Gil 972-0224, Dan Pedersen 972-0074, Robin Field 974-7064

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9A of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) through achievements of Good Faith Efforts. 1.01% MBE and 9.71% WBE subcontractor participation.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission. (Related to items # 34 and #63)

This request for Council action is for construction of an elevated composite storage tank in central Austin and is the initial component of an Austin Water Utility system for recycling reclaimed wastewater for irrigation and industrial uses in central Austin. The tank will be 170 feet tall, it will have a capacity of two million gallons and will include storage, disinfection, and a future booster pump station. It will be sited just to the north of the Mueller Redevelopment.

In spring of 2005, the Austin Water Utility held meetings with area stakeholders, including neighborhood associations and others, about the project. Stakeholder concerns about aesthetics of the tank led to the formation of a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) in July of 2005 and the hiring in October of 2005 of Cotera & Reed, an architectural firm, to improve the aesthetics of the tank. The PAC met throughout 2006 and the subsequent design process resulted in a design that exceeds a basic tank design by including a steel bowl, multi colors and special lighting.

The tank will serve areas within the central city, including the Mueller Redevelopment, Bartholomew Park, the University of Texas, the Capitol complex, downtown, etc., and is a critical component of the Austin Water Utility's long term plans for reclaiming and re-using 26.7 million gallons of recycled wastewater on a peak day.

A subsequent RCA will be forthcoming to Council to address construction of a second component of the system, the pipeline that will connect Phase 1-A at 51st Street/Manor Road and run west to IH 35. The pipeline will deliver the reclaimed water westward from the Walnut Creek WWTP to other customers.

Due to the potential for unknown subsurface conditions and utility conflicts when working in the right-ofway and on the old Airport site, a 5% contingency in funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any future change orders. The contract allows 630 calendar days for completion of this project.

The engineer's estimate for this project is \$7,700,000.